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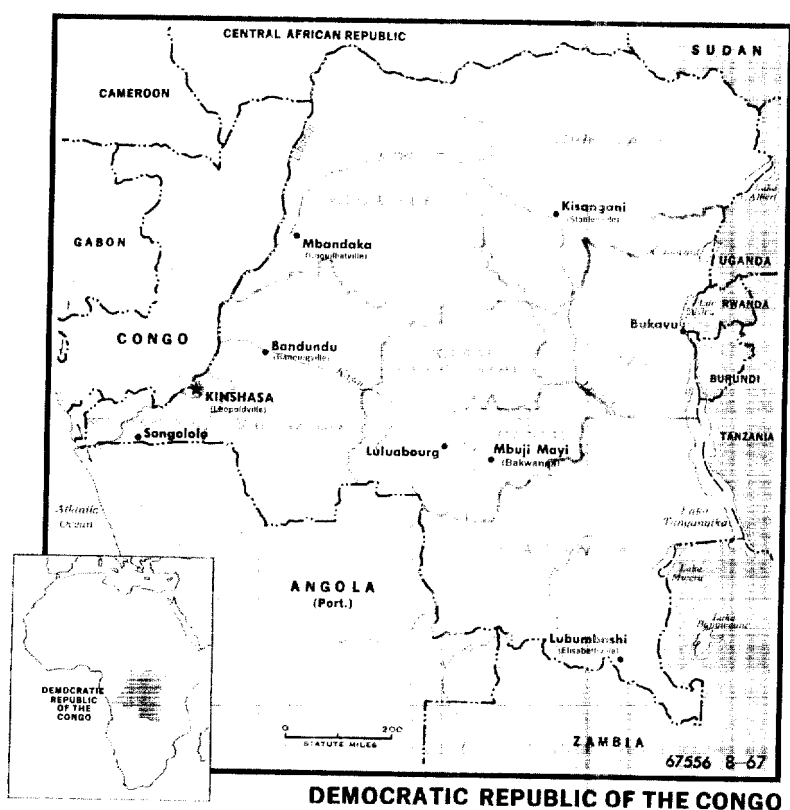
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Congo (Kinshasa): Europeans throughout the Congo are extremely apprehensive following the attack on the Belgian Embassy in Kinshasa on 14 August.

The Congolese mobs which sacked and burned the embassy as well as an adjacent apartment building were dispersed by mid-morning. The US Embassy and the French Cultural Center were also attacked, but damage to these buildings was slight. Some Belgians and one American couple were beaten, but no one was seriously injured.

The nearly 20,000 Europeans in Katanga, already nervous about reports that the mercenaries in Bukavu intend to proceed southward, are anxious to evacuate. Many are expected to try to flee across the border into Zambia, and Sabena airlines has been flooded with requests for reservations. Rumors that a second group of mercenaries is about to enter the Congo from Angola have created panic among Congolese in Luluabourg.

Mercenary plans apparently remain uncertain. The Belgian ambassador believes that Schramme would be willing to depart to Rwanda if proper assurances could be granted. The Belgian Government has pointed out to Schramme that his presence in the Congo endangers thousands of lives, both Congolese and foreign.

The violence in heretofore safe Kinshasa, in addition to Mobutu's refusal thus far to provide written guarantees of safety for Belgians in the Congo, will probably increase pressures on the Belgian Government to disengage. Foreign Minister Harmel returned home hastily yesterday from vacation, and US, British, French, and Italian diplomats consulted with the Belgian Foreign Ministry on possible evacuation of whites from the Congo. It is doubtful, however, that Mobutu would permit a large-scale evacuation. [REDACTED]

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